



Compatible Camera System

Field Of The Invention

The invention relates to a camera system as described in the preamble of claim

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Description Of Related Art

Camera systems are known in the art and basically comprise a camera for gathering information such as news, sport events, etc. and a base station, for example a truck
10 with a recording apparatus and for example communication means with a studio by satellite etc. The camera can be operated by a cameraman or being automatically operated from the base station. The camera is coupled to the base station by transmission means, for example the known triax cable.

At the moment there are basically two transmission systems it is the so-called
15 RGB-system and the so-called Y, R-Y, B-Y-system. Until now most of the cameras are all operating according to the RGB system.

A disadvantage of the known cameras and known base stations is that a camera can only operate with a corresponding base station.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is, *inter alia*, an object of the invention to provide a camera system that can operate with both kinds of cameras. To that end a camera system according to the invention has the features as described in claim 1. By adding a detection unit and a switching unit to the base station it is made possible to detect what kind of camera is coupled to the base station
25 and switch over the base station to the corresponding transmission standard. The invention further relates to a base station for use in such a camera system. An embodiment of the

invention comprises the features as claimed in claim 2.

A further embodiment of the invention comprises the features of claim 3. In this embodiment the camera transmits information which standard is used on the basis of the synchronization signal. Either a first mode with a so-called G signal with a horizontal
5 synchronization signal or a second mode with a Y video with a composite synchronization signal.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention and additional features, which may be optimally used to
10 implement the invention to advantage, will be apparent from and elucidated with reference to the examples described below hereinafter and shown in the figures.

Herein shows:

Fig. 1 schematically a camera system according to the invention, and

Fig. 2 illustrates a base station according to the invention in more detail.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Fig. 1 shows a camera system 100 according to the invention comprising at least one camera (hereinafter "camera") 110, transmission means 120 and a base station 130. The camera 110 is coupled via the transmission means 120 to the base station 130, whereby
20 the base station 130 comprises a detection unit 140 for detecting the transmission mode. The detection unit 140 supplies a detection signal ds to a switching unit 150 for switching over a part of the base station 130 to the detected transmission mode. In Fig. 2 the base station 130 will be described in more detail.

In this way it is made possible that the base station 130 will operate with the
25 different kind of cameras without the need to change the base station 130 to the type of camera used. The switchover to the other mode will be then automatically by the base station

130.

Fig. 2 shows an example of a base station 130 according to the invention in more detail. The base station 130 comprises an input 205 coupled to the transmission means 120. The input 205 is coupled to an interface unit 210 for interfacing the base station signals with the transmission means 120. In this interface unit 120, filters etc. are used to filter out the different signals to be supplied to the different parts of the base station 130. One output of the interface unit 210 supplies a video signal v2 to be handled in the video unit 220. The video unit 220 comprises a so-called front-end module FEM 230. This front-end module 230 supplies a signal to an AM demodulator 240. At an output thereof, this AM demodulator 240 supplies either the Y or G signal and supplies the signal to the switching unit 150. At another output, the front-end module 230 supplies a signal to a QAM demodulator 260. The QAM demodulator 260 has two outputs for supplying at one output the either RY or R signal and at the other output the B-Y or B signal. Both signals are supplied to the switching unit 150. In the switching unit 150, the three signals are supplied to a converting unit 255 for converting the input signals into the signals Y, R-Y, B-Y. The video unit 220 further comprises a pulse generator 290. The pulse generator 290 receives from the detection unit 140 a detection signal that indicates which of the two modes is applicable. The detection unit 140 is coupled to the front-end module 230. The interface unit 210 is further coupled to an audio unit 280 for supplying and receiving respectively different audio signals a21, a22, a23 and a24.

It will be noticed that the camera system according to the invention can amended without departing from the spirit of the invention.